

City of Pelham
City Council Work Session
December 21, 2009

MINUTES

Members of the Pelham City Council met on December 21, 2009. The meeting was held in the conference room of Pelham City Hall and was open to the public.

The following elected officials were present:

Don Murphy, Mayor
Mike Dickens, Council President
Teresa Nichols, Councilmember
Bill Meadows, Councilmember
Steve Powell, Councilmember
Karyl Rice, Councilmember

Media Present: None

Others present: Tom Seale, Gary Waters, Eddy Jowers, Mike Morgan, Officer Pat Cheatwood, Fire Chief Danny Ray, Janis Parks, Johnny Busby, Lynn Waters, Jesse Jowers, other city employees and members of the public.

The council work session was called to order by Council President Mike Dickens at 6:06 pm.

A motion was made by Councilmember Teresa Nichols to approve the December 10, 2009 work session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Steve Powell and by voice vote the motion passed unanimously by all members present.

Mr. Dickens reviewed the council agenda for December 21, 2009 and noted other council business would be addressed in the work session as time permits.

RESOLUTION 2009-12-21-01 Adding the name of Mayor Paul Yeager to the Memorial Obelisk.

No discussion.

RESOLUTION 2009-12-21-02 Adding the name of Officer Philip M. Davis to the Memorial Obelisk.

No discussion.

RESOLUTION 2009-12-21-03 Adding the name of Probate Judge Patricia Yeager Fuhrmeister to the Memorial Obelisk.

No discussion.

RESOLUTION 2009-12-21-04 Declaring the City's Intent for Reimbursement of Costs.

Council President Dickens commented on the Resolution and asked Finance Director / City Clerk Tom Seale to further explain its purpose. Mr. Seale explained the Resolution would allow the City to reimburse itself for expenses incurred on water, sewer or other capital expenditures prior to the issuance of any financing options. The Resolution does not obligate the city to borrow any funds, but simply gives the city the option for reimbursement of expenses prior to the issuing of any general obligation bonds.

ORDINANCE 156-4 Residential and Commercial Sewer Rate Increase (Correction to Ordinance 156-3 regarding the Commercial Rates).

Council President Dickens and Mr. Seale explained the purpose of Ordinance 156-4. Mr. Seale further explained Section 1 in Ordinance 156-3 regarding the commercial rates contained a calculation error that actually decreased the monthly sewer charges. Sections 2-11 were correct in Ordinance 156-3. The residential rates would not be affected by the correction.

ORDINANCE 440 – Annexation request by Arthur K. Husband, III and Stacy Murdoch, 1630 Highway 35, Pelham, Alabama

City Engineer Jesse Jowers explained the annexation request was contiguous with the Pelham city limits and the parcel contains one home and a single individual.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Murphy informed the Council he and Police Chief Tommy Thomas would appear on Fox6 on Tuesday, December 22, 2009 with Janice Rogers. Their appearance would promote the community's efforts in retiring the mortgage debt of Police Officer Philip M. Davis. The Mayor noted that six new outdoor weather sirens will soon be in operation in the city. Dr. Nichols asked the Mayor about the new business across from the First Baptist Church of Pelham.

The Mayor thanked all the city employees who participated in the bell ringing at Wal-Mart last week for the Salvation Army. "Sparky the Fire Dog" assisted with the bell ringing. The Mayor mentioned the "Nutcracker" performances at Pelham High School and receiving a complaint regarding an electrical conduit across the Ballantrae round-a-bout.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Councilmember Powell discussed Officer Philip Davis' widow, Paula Davis, and the fact that the family's health insurance benefits would expire on December 31, 2009. He explained several options, which include COBRA, the City of Montevallo health insurance plan and the

death benefits Mrs. Davis would be receiving from various insurance companies and government agencies. Mr. Powell suggested approving insurance benefits beyond that already provided by the city. In this particular case, Mr. Powell would like to see the city extend the COBRA benefits for the Davis family on a month-to-month basis with these extended benefits paid by the city. Mr. Powell would also like to see the city provide a line of duty death benefit to all city employees which would offer an additional sense of financial security to all employees' families similar to the \$ 100,000 the State of Alabama provides for police officers killed in the line of duty. Councilmember Meadows agreed the death benefit should be job related. Mr. Dickens asked City Clerk Tom Seale to prepare a resolution extending health insurance benefits for the Davis family for the month of January 2010 for consideration tonight by the city council.

Mr. Meadows made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Dr. Nichols. The motion passed unanimously by all those present and the work session was adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Seale", written over a horizontal line.

Tom Seale
Finance Director / City Clerk